

Perinatal Hepatitis B Virus -1995 Case Definition

*Clinical case definition:

Perinatal hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection in the newborn may range from asymptomatic to fulminant hepatitis.

Laboratory criteria for diagnosis:

- Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) - positive

Case classification:

HBsAg positivity in any infant aged 1-24 months of age who was born in the United States or in U.S. territories to an HBsAg-positive mother.

Comment: Infants born to HBsAg-positive mothers should receive hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG) and the first dose of hepatitis B vaccine within 12 hours of birth, followed by the second and third doses of vaccine at 1 and 6 months of age, respectively. Post-vaccination testing for HBsAg and hepatitis B surface antibody (anti-HBs) is recommended from 3 to 6 months following completion of the vaccine series. If HBIG and the initial dose of vaccine are delayed for more than 1 month after birth, testing for HBsAg may determine if the infant is already infected.

References: Division of Viral Hepatitis. Guidelines for Viral Hepatitis Surveillance and Case Management. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. January 2005.

*The 1995 case definition appearing on this page was re-published incorrectly in the 1997 MMWR Recommendations and Reports titled *Case Definitions for Infectious Conditions Under Public Health Surveillance* [MMWR 1997;46(RR10)] (available at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00047449.htm>). Thus, the 1995 and the 1997 versions of this case definition are not identical, and the 1995 version is the correct one.

www.cdc.gov/ncphi/disss/nndss/print/hepatitisviralcurrent.htm